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Neurosurgery

Neurosurgery specializes in prevention, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of disorders which affect the nervous system. Learn more about [neurosurgery](https://health.ucsd.edu) at UC San Diego Health.

David Barba, MD, FAANS
Neurosurgeon
Professor of Surgery

**Specialties:**
Neurosurgery, Surgery

**Add'l Language:**
Spanish

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

**Bio:**
David Barba, MD, is a board-certified neurosurgeon focusing on surgical treatment of people with epilepsy and movement disorders.

J. Scott Pannell, MD
Neurointerventional Radiologist

**Specialties:**
Neurosurgery, Radiology, Stroke Care

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Jacobs Medical Center
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

**Bio:**
J. Scott Pannell, MD, is a neurointerventional radiologist who specializes in endovascular neurosurgery and neuroradiology. Dr. Pannell focuses on the catheter-based treatment of ischemic stroke, cerebral aneurysms, arteriovenous malformations, carotid stenosis, vascular tumors, and interventional management of pain associated with disorders of the spine (such as spine blocks).

Michael Levy, MD, PhD
Chief of Pediatric Neurosurgery
Professor of Surgery

**Specialties:**
Neurosurgery, Surgery

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273

**Bio:**
Michael L. Levy, MD, PhD, is a board-certified neurosurgeon at UC San Diego Health and chief of pediatric neurosurgery at Rady Children's Hospital San Diego. Dr. Levy's primary surgical interests are in pediatric and vascular neurosurgery.

Hoi Sang U, MD
Neurosurgeon
Professor of Surgery

**Specialties:**
Neurosurgery, Surgery

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

**Contact:**
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

**Bio:**
Hoi Sang U, MD, is a board-certified neurosurgeon who is an internationally recognized specialist in the treatment of vascular anomalies known as AVMs. Patients have traveled to UCSD from as far away as Australia, Hong Kong, the Sultanate of Brunei, Africa and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to take advantage of his expertise.
Neurosurgery - Complex Cranial Surgery

Thomas L. Beaumont, MD, PhD
Neurosurgeon
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery, Cancer

Subspecialties:
Minimally Invasive Surgery, Neurological Oncology, Complex Cranial Surgery, Neurological Oncology

Additional Language:
Italian

Moores Cancer Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Moores Cancer Center: (858) 822-6100

Bio:
Thomas Beaumont, MD, PhD, is a neurosurgeon who specializes in skull base and minimally invasive cranial surgery. He performs both open microsurgery and endoscopic approaches for brain, skull base and pituitary tumors where he tailors the surgical approach to provide maximally effective yet minimally invasive neurosurgical care. Dr. Beaumont has a passion for the treatment of meningiomas, pituitary tumors, craniopharyngiomas and clival chordomas, and is an expert in the endoscopic endonasal approach (EEA). Additionally, he treats cavernous malformations, cranial nerve compression syndromes and craniocervical junction disease.

Sunil Jeswani, MD
Neurosurgeon

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery

Subspecialties:
Complex Cranial Surgery, Minimally Invasive Surgery, Neurological Oncology, Spine

Additional Language:
Spanish

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

Bio:
Sunil Jeswani, MD, is a neurosurgeon who treats people with cranial and spinal problems. He performs surgery for brain tumors, pituitary tumors, skull base tumors, stereotactic radiosurgery, hydrocephalus, and trigeminal neuralgia. He also does minimally invasive spinal surgery and treats spinal conditions such as degenerative disease, tumors, scoliosis and spinal trauma.
Neurosurgery - Complex Cranial Surgery (cont.)

Alexander A. Khalessi, MD, FAANS
Chair, Neurological Surgery
Professor of Surgery, Radiology and Neurosciences

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery, Stroke Care, Cancer

Subspecialties:
Neurological Oncology, Endovascular Neurosurgery, Complex Cranial Surgery, Neurological Oncology

Add'l Languages:
Farsi, Spanish

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Jacobs Medical Center
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

Bio:
Alexander A. Khalessi, MD, MBA, is a board-certified neurosurgeon who specializes in cranial and endovascular surgery. He is chair of the Department of Neurosurgery and professor of Surgery, Radiology and Neurosciences. He provides both open surgical and catheter-based approaches to complex neurosurgical problems, including brain tumors, aneurysms, arteriovenous malformations (AVM) and carotid disease. His vascular training informs his surgical approach to complex tumors in the brain. He is a fellow of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (FAANS), American Heart Association Stroke Council (FAHA), and senior member of the Society of NeuroInterventional Surgery (SNIS).

Marc S. Schwartz, MD
Neurosurgeon

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery, Cancer

Subspecialties:
Complex Cranial Surgery, Neurological Oncology, Neurological Oncology

Moores Cancer Center
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Neurosurgery: (619) 543-5540
Direct Clinic Line - ENT/Head & Neck Surgery: (858) 657-8590
Direct Clinic Line - Moores Cancer Center: (858) 822-6100

Bio:
Marc Schwartz, MD, is a board-certified neurosurgeon who is an internationally renowned expert on the treatment of patients with acoustic neuromas, skull base tumors, and neurofibromatosis type 2 (NF2). He is also the recognized neurosurgical leader in the field of auditory brainstem implants. In addition, Dr. Schwartz treats complex cranial problems, meningiomas, brain tumors, pituitary tumors, cranial nerve disorders, and intradural spine tumors.
Neurosurgery - Endovascular Neurosurgery

**Alexander A. Khalessi, MD, FAANS**  
Chair, Neurological Surgery  
Professor of Surgery, Radiology and Neurosciences

**Specialties:**  
Neurosurgery, Surgery, Stroke Care, Cancer  

**Subspecialties:**  
Neurological Oncology, Endovascular Neurosurgery, Complex Cranial Surgery, Neurological Oncology  

**Add'l Languages:**  
Farsi, Spanish

**Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center**  
**Jacobs Medical Center**  
**La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices**

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

**Bio:**  
Alexander A. Khalessi, MD, MBA, is a board-certified neurosurgeon who specializes in cranial and endovascular surgery. He is chair of the Department of Neurosurgery and professor of Surgery, Radiology and Neurosciences. He provides both open surgical and catheter-based approaches to complex neurosurgical problems, including brain tumors, aneurysms, arteriovenous malformations (AVM) and carotid disease. His vascular training informs his surgical approach to complex tumors in the brain. He is a fellow of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (FAANS), American Heart Association Stroke Council (FAHA), and senior member of the Society of NeuroInterventional Surgery (SNIS).

**Scott E. Olson, MD**  
Vascular Neurologist and Endovascular Neurosurgeon  
Associate Professor of Surgery

**Specialties:**  
Neurosurgery, Neurology, Stroke Care  

**Subspecialties:**  
Endovascular Neurosurgery, Stroke

**La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices**

**Contact:**  
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273  
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

**Bio:**  
Scott E. Olson, MD, is a board-certified vascular neurologist with additional fellowship training in interventional neuroradiology/endovascular neurosurgery. He specializes in evaluating and treating disorders of the blood vessels of the brain and spinal cord, which can lead to ischemic or hemorrhagic stroke. His expertise includes both medical and endovascular care for individuals with extra and intracranial stenoses, brain aneurysms and vascular malformations, whether congenital or acquired.
Neurosurgery - Neurological Oncology

John Alksne, MD
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery, Cancer

Subspecialties:
Neurological Oncology, Neurological Oncology

Hillcrest - Medical Offices North
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

Bio:
John F. Alksne, MD, is a board-certified neurosurgeon who focuses on the care of patients with neurological conditions such as trigeminal neuralgia (tic dououreux/facial pain), facial tic, glossopharyngeal neuralgia, and acoustic neuroma.

Thomas L. Beaumont, MD, PhD
Neurosurgeon
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery, Cancer

Subspecialties:
Minimally Invasive Surgery, Neurological Oncology, Complex Cranial Surgery, Neurological Oncology

Add'l Language:
Italian

Moores Cancer Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Moores Cancer Center: (858) 822-6100

Bio:
Thomas Beaumont, MD, PhD, is a neurosurgeon who specializes in skull base and minimally invasive cranial surgery. He performs both open microsurgery and endoscopic approaches for brain, skull base and pituitary tumors where he tailors the surgical approach to provide maximally effective yet minimally invasive neurosurgical care. Dr. Beaumont has a passion for the treatment of meningiomas, pituitary tumors, craniopharyngiomas and clival chordomas, and is an expert in the endoscopic endonasal approach (EEA). Additionally, he treats cavernous malformations, cranial nerve compression syndromes and craniocervical junction disease.
Neurosurgery - Neurological Oncology (cont.)

Joseph D Ciacci, MD
Neurosurgeon
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery, Cancer

Subspecialties:
Neurological Oncology, Neurological Oncology, Spine

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

Bio:
Joseph Ciacci, MD, is a board-certified neurosurgeon with extensive experience in neuro-oncology of the spine and brain. Dr. Ciacci's primary interests are tumors of the spine and brain, complex spinal reconstruction, and stereotactic radiosurgery, a form of radiation therapy that focuses high-power energy on a small area of the body.

Sunil Jeswani, MD
Neurosurgeon

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery

Subspecialties:
Complex Cranial Surgery, Minimally Invasive Surgery, Neurological Oncology, Spine

Add'l Language:
Spanish

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

Bio:
Sunil Jeswani, MD, is a neurosurgeon who treats people with cranial and spinal problems. He performs surgery for brain tumors, pituitary tumors, skull base tumors, stereotactic radiosurgery, hydrocephalus, and trigeminal neuralgia. He also does minimally invasive spinal surgery and treats spinal conditions such as degenerative disease, tumors, scoliosis and spinal trauma.
Neurosurgery - Neurological Oncology (cont.)

Alexander A. Khalessi, MD, FAANS
Chair, Neurological Surgery
Professor of Surgery, Radiology and Neurosciences

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery, Stroke Care, Cancer

Subspecialties:
Neurological Oncology, Endovascular Neurosurgery, Complex Cranial Surgery, Neurological Oncology

Add'l Languages:
Farsi, Spanish

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
Jacobs Medical Center
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

Bio:
Alexander A. Khalessi, MD, MBA, is a board-certified neurosurgeon who specializes in cranial and endovascular surgery. He is chair of the Department of Neurosurgery and professor of Surgery, Radiology and Neurosciences. He provides both open surgical and catheter-based approaches to complex neurosurgical problems, including brain tumors, aneurysms, arteriovenous malformations (AVM) and carotid disease. His vascular training informs his surgical approach to complex tumors in the brain. He is a fellow of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons (FAANS), American Heart Association Stroke Council (FAHA), and senior member of the Society of NeuroInterventional Surgery (SNIS).

Marc S. Schwartz, MD
Neurosurgeon

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery, Cancer

Subspecialties:
Complex Cranial Surgery, Neurological Oncology, Neurological Oncology

Moores Cancer Center
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line - Neurosurgery: (619) 543-5540
Direct Clinic Line - ENT/Head & Neck Surgery: (858) 657-8590
Direct Clinic Line - Moores Cancer Center: (858) 822-6100

Bio:
Marc Schwartz, MD, is a board-certified neurosurgeon who is an internationally renowned expert on the treatment of patients with acoustic neuromas, skull base tumors, and neurofibromatosis type 2 (NF2). He is also the recognized neurosurgical leader in the field of auditory brainstem implants. In addition, Dr. Schwartz treats complex cranial problems, meningiomas, brain tumors, pituitary tumors, cranial nerve disorders, and intradural spine tumors.
Neurosurgery - Spine

Sharona Ben-Haim, MD
Neurosurgeon
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery

Subspecialty:
Spine

Add'l Languages:
Hebrew, Spanish

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

Bio:
Sharona Ben-Haim, MD, is a neurosurgeon who specializes in caring for people with treatment-resistant epilepsy and movement disorders such as Parkinson's disease, dystonia and essential tremor and spasticity. She also treats chronic pain, including facial pain and trigeminal neuralgia, as well as pain related to spinal conditions.

Sunil Jeswani, MD
Neurosurgeon

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery

Subspecialties:
Complex Cranial Surgery, Minimally Invasive Surgery, Neurological Oncology, Spine

Add'l Language:
Spanish

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

Bio:
Sunil Jeswani, MD, is a neurosurgeon who treats people with cranial and spinal problems. He performs surgery for brain tumors, pituitary tumors, skull base tumors, stereotactic radiosurgery, hydrocephalus, and trigeminal neuralgia. He also does minimally invasive spinal surgery and treats spinal conditions such as degenerative disease, tumors, scoliosis and spinal trauma.

Joseph D Ciacci, MD
Neurosurgeon
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery, Cancer

Subspecialties:
Neurological Oncology, Neurological Oncology, Spine

Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

Bio:
Joseph Ciacci, MD, is a board-certified neurosurgeon with extensive experience in neuro-oncology of the spine and brain. Dr. Ciacci's primary interests are tumors of the spine and brain, complex spinal reconstruction, and stereotactic radiosurgery, a form of radiation therapy that focuses high-power energy on a small area of the body.
Lawrence Marshall, MD
Neurosurgeon
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery
Subspecialty:
Spine

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

Bio:
Lawrence Marshall, MD, is a board-certified neurosurgeon and an internationally renowned expert in traumatic head injury. Dr. Marshall's surgical interests cover all of neurosurgery but especially diseases of the spine and spinal cord, brain tumors, and peripheral nerves.

Andrew Nguyen, MD, PhD
Neurosurgeon
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery
Subspecialty:
Spine
Add'l Language:
Vietnamese

Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

Bio:
Andrew Nguyen, MD, PhD, is a neurosurgeon who specializes in endovascular treatments for neurovascular diseases and minimally invasive spine surgery.

Joseph Osorio, MD, PhD
Neurosurgeon
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery
Subspecialty:
Spine
Add'l Language:
Spanish

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion
Jacobs Medical Center
Hillcrest - UC San Diego Medical Center
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

Bio:
Joseph Osorio, MD, PhD, is a neurosurgeon who specializes in complex spine surgery. He treats spinal conditions such as scoliosis, kyphosis, kyphoscoliosis and flatback syndrome. He also treats spinal tumors, cervical spinal problems, and degenerative conditions of the spine such as spondylolisthesis and stenosis.
Neurosurgery - Spine (cont.)

Martin H. Pham, MD
Neurosurgeon
Assistant Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery

Subspecialties:
Minimally Invasive Surgery, Spine

Add'l Language:
Spanish

Jacobs Medical Center
Rancho Bernardo - Via Tazon
La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

Bio:
Martin Pham, MD, is a neurosurgeon who focuses on the neurosurgical evaluation and treatment of spinal disorders. This includes adult scoliosis and spinal deformity, complex spinal reconstruction, robotic and minimally invasive spine surgery, motion preservation of the spine, spine tumors, and spine trauma.

William Taylor, MD
Neurosurgeon
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Neurosurgery, Surgery

Subspecialties:
Minimally Invasive Surgery, Spine

La Jolla - Perlman Medical Offices

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-5540

Bio:
William Taylor, MD, is a board-certified neurosurgeon. His practice focuses on the neurosurgical evaluation and treatment of spinal disorders. He is also dedicated to further developing and refining minimally invasive surgical procedures used to treat spinal conditions and diseases.
Vascular Surgery

Vascular surgery is a specialty of medical surgery in which diseases of the vascular system, or arteries and veins, are managed by medical therapy, minimally-invasive catheter procedures, and surgical reconstruction. Learn more about vascular surgery at UC San Diego Health.

Dennis Bandyk, MD
Vascular Surgeon
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Vascular Surgery, Surgery
Subspecialty:
Minimally Invasive Surgery

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line:: (619) 543-6980

Bio:
Dennis Bandyk, MD, is a board-certified vascular surgeon who diagnoses and treats people with disorders affecting the arteries, veins and lymphatic systems. He provides comprehensive medical treatment and reconstructive vascular surgical and endovascular (less invasive) techniques for individuals with all types of vascular conditions.

Andrew Barleben, MD
Vascular Surgeon
Assistant Clinical Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Vascular Surgery, Surgery

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line:: (619) 543-6980

Bio:
Andrew Barleben, MD, is a board-certified vascular surgeon, specializing in the treatment of a variety of conditions and diseases, including thoracic and abdominal aortic disease, carotid artery disease, cerebrovascular disease, peripheral artery disease, renal artery disease, mesenteric artery disease, peripheral vascular disease, varicose veins, venous ulceration and deep vein thrombosis.

John Lane, MD
Interim Chief, Vascular Surgery

Specialties:
Vascular Surgery, Surgery

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line:: (619) 543-6980

Bio:
UC San Diego Health Links
Vascular Surgery - Endovascular Surgery

Omar Al-Nouri, DO
Vascular Surgeon
Assistant Professor of Surgery

**Specialties:**
Vascular Surgery, Surgery

**Subspecialties:**
Endovascular Surgery, Minimally Invasive Surgery

**Additional Language:**
Arabic

**Contact:**
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

**Bio:**
Omar Al-Nouri, DO, MS, RPVI, is a board-certified vascular surgeon who specializes in a wide spectrum of vascular diseases, including complex treatment of thoracic and abdominal aortic aneurysms, peripheral arterial disease, carotid disease, thoracic outlet syndrome, venous disease and hemodialysis access. He uses both open and endovascular (less invasive) techniques to provide patients with the best possible approach.

Mahmoud B. Malas, MD, MHS, FACS
Vascular Surgeon
Chief, Vascular and Endovascular Surgery

**Specialties:**
Vascular Surgery, Surgery

**Subspecialties:**
Endovascular Surgery, Minimally Invasive Surgery

**Additional Languages:**
Arabic, French

**Contact:**
La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion
Hillcrest - Medical Offices North

**Bio:**
Mahmoud Malas, MD, is a vascular and endovascular surgeon who treats patients with conditions related to blood vessels, including thoracic and abdominal aortic aneurysms, carotid artery disease, peripheral arterial disease, venous disease, thoracic outlet syndrome, spine exposure and hemodialysis access. He specializes in both traditional open surgery and minimally invasive endovascular approaches that require no incision.
Vascular Surgery - Endovascular Surgery (cont.)

Erik L Owens, MD
Vascular Surgeon
Professor of Surgery

Specialties:
Vascular Surgery, Surgery

Subspecialty:
Endovascular Surgery

Add'l Language:
Norwegian

La Jolla - Koman Family Outpatient Pavilion

Contact:
New Patient Registration: (800) 926-8273
Direct Clinic Line: (619) 543-6980

Bio:
Erik Owens, MD, is a board-certified vascular surgeon. He is engaged in several clinical studies with interests in aortic aneurysms, treatment of venous stasis ulcers and minimally invasive bypass procedures. He serves as co-director for the Endovascular Training Center at the San Diego VA Medical Center.
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